of 3 per cent of teaching and non-teaching post for employment is also to be made for persons with disabilities in these institutions according to the provisions of the said Act. Norms are relaxed for persons with disabilities for admission to engineering/technical courses and 5 per cent relaxation in marks at the master's level is also given to them for appearing in National Eligibility Test (NET) Examination of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The Commission also takes into account whether a particular institution is properly implementing the provisions of the Act mentioned above, in respect of reservation for the persons with disability, while granting development assistance to such an institution.

Advanced admissions in technical institutions and universities

*559. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been complaints that technical institutions and universities, including deemed universities are making admissions well before the start of the academic year, collecting full fee and retaining the certificates, in a bid to prevent students from moving out elsewhere;

(b) whether the time-limit for joining courses is being advanced, thereby restricting the options available to students, who tend to take up what comes first; and

(c) what steps are being taken to redress those complaints?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that institutions and universities including deemed to be universities are admitting students to technical education programmes long before the actual starting of an academic session, collecting full fees and retaining the certificates in original in order to prevent students from moving out to some other institution. This Ministry issued a directive to All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and University Grants Commission (UGC) directing them to instruct institutions and universities under their control that no institution should keep in their custody and originals of any school or college certificates and that in case a student withdraws before the starting of a course, the entire fees collected from the student should be refunded after a deduction of a processing fee of not more than Rupees one thousand. It also stated that any violation of the above instructions issued by the AICTE/UGC should call for a punitive action including withdrawal of approval and recognition of erring institutions/universities UGC and AICTE had accordingly issued necessary instructions to all the institutions under their control. Ministry also had given advice to the Central Educational Institutions to follow the above stipulation. The AICTE had also issued Public Notices to the above effect in leading national dailies and have also placed it on their website (wwe.aicte.ernet.in).

Appointment of Notaries

*560. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of corruption in the appointment of Central Notaries Public have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;